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TARIFF REVISION

Advocated by President Roosevelt

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

Attention Called to Other Important Measures

Expresses Hope That Action Will be Taken in One or Another of These Measures at Present Session—Reading of Document Given Close Attention in Both Houses.

Washington, March 25.—A special message from the president was read in both houses of congress soon after convening today and in both it was closely followed. In the house the president's declaration that the time had come for a revision in the tariff elicited hand-clapping on the part of democratic members. Democratic approval also was given by way of pounding desks to the suggestion that congress could with advantage forthwith remove the tariff on wood pulp, with a corresponding reduction upon paper made of the wood pulp.

The republicans waited and confined the applause to the message as a whole.

In the senate the message was received without comment of any kind.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives: I call your attention to certain measures as to which I think there should be action by the congress before the close of the present session. There is ample time for their consideration. As regards most if not all of the matters, bills have been introduced into one or the other of the two houses, and it is not too much to hope that action will be taken one way or the other on these bills at the present session. In my message at the opening of the present session, and, indeed, in various messages to previous congresses, I have repeatedly suggested action on most of these measures.

Child labor should be prohibited throughout the nation. At least a model child-labor bill should be passed for the District of Columbia. It is unfortunate that in the one place solely dependent upon congress for its legislation there should be no law whatever to protect children by forbidding or regulating their labor. I renew my recommendation for the immediate reenactment of an employers' liability law, drawn to conform to the recent decision of the supreme court. Within the limits indicated by the court, the law should be made thorough and comprehensive, and the protection it affords should embrace every class of employee to which the power of the congress can extend.

In addition to a liability law protecting the employees of common carriers, the government should show its good faith by enacting a further law giving compensation to its own employees for injury or death incurred in its service. It is a reproach to us as a nation that in both federal and state legislation we have afforded less protection to public and private employees than any other industrial country of the world.

I also urge that action be taken along the line of the recommendations I have already made concerning injunctions in labor disputes. No temporary restraining order should be issued by any court without notice; and the petition for a permanent injunction upon which such temporary restraining order has been issued should be heard by the court issuing the same within a reasonable time—say, not to exceed a week or thereabout from the date when the order was issued. It is worth considering whether it would not give greater popular confidence in the impartiality of sentences for contempt if it was required that the issue should be decided by another judge than the one issuing the injunction, except where the contempt is committed in the presence of the court, or in other cases of urgency.

I again call attention to the urgent need of amending the interstate commerce law and especially the anti-trust law along the lines indicated in my last message. The interstate commerce law should be amended so as to give railroads the right to make traffic agreements, subject to these agreements being approved by the interstate commerce commission and published in all of their details. The commission should be given the power to make public and to pass upon the issuance of all securities hereafter issued by railroads doing an interstate commerce business.

A law should be passed providing in effect that when a federal court determines to place a common carrier or other public utility concern

under the control of a receivership, the attorney general should have the right to nominate at least one of the receivers; or else in some other way the interests of the stockholders should be consulted, so that the management may not be wholly delivered to the man or men the failure of whose policy may have necessitated the creation of the receivership. Receiverships should be used, not to operate roads, but as speedily as possible to pay their debts and return them to the proper owners.

In addition to the reasons I have already urged on your attention it has now become important that there should be an amendment of the anti-trust law, because of the uncertainty as to how this law affects combinations among labor men and farmers, if the combination has any tendency to restrict interstate commerce. All of these combinations, if and while existing for and engaged in the promotion of innocent and proper purposes, should be recognized as legal. As I have repeatedly pointed out, this anti-trust law was a most unwisely drawn statute. It was perhaps inevitable that in feeling after the right remedy the first attempts to provide such should be crude; and it was absolutely imperative that some legislation should be passed to control, in the interest of the public, the business use of the enormous aggregation of corporate wealth that are so marked a feature of the modern industrial world. But the present anti-trust law, in its construction and working, has exemplified only too well the kind of legislation which under the guise of being thoroughgoing, is drawn up in such sweeping form as to become either ineffective or else mischievous.

In the modern industrial world combinations are absolutely necessary; they are necessary among business men, they are necessary among laboring men, they are becoming more and more necessary among farmers. Some of these combinations are among the most powerful of all instruments for wrongdoing. Others offer the only effective way of meeting actual business needs. It is mischievous and unwholesome to keep upon the statute books unmodified a law, like the anti-trust law, which, while in practice is only partially effective against vicious combinations, has nevertheless in theory been construed so sweeping to prohibit every combination for the transaction of modern business. Some real good has resulted from this law. But the time has come when it is imperative to modify it. Such modification is urgently needed for the sake of the business men of the country, for the sake of the wage workers, and for the sake of the farmers. The congress can not afford to leave it on the statute books in its present shape.

It has now become uncertain how far this law may involve all labor organizations and farmers' organizations, as well as all business organizations, in conflict with the law; or, if we secure literal compliance with the law, how far it may result in the destruction of the organizations necessary for the transaction of modern business, as well as of all labor organizations and farmers' organizations, completely check the wise movement for securing business cooperation among farmers, and put back half a century the progress of the movement for the betterment of labor. A bill has been presented in the congress to remedy this situation. Some such measure as this bill is needed in the interest of all engaged in the industries which are essential to the country's well-being. I do not pretend to say the exact shape that the bill should take, and the suggestions I have to offer are tentative; and my views would apply equally to any other measure which would achieve the desired end. Bearing this in mind, I would suggest, merely tentatively, the following changes in the law:

The substantive part of the anti-trust law should remain as at present; that is, every contract in restraint of trade or commerce among the several states or with foreign nations should continue to be declared illegal; provided, however, that some proper governmental authority (such as the commissioner of corporations) acting under the secretary of commerce and labor) be allowed to pass on any such contracts. Probably the best method of providing for this would be to enact that any contract, subject to the prohibition contained in the anti-trust law, into which it was desired to enter, might be filed with the bureau of corporations or other appropriate executive body. This would provide publicity. Within, say, sixty days of the filing—which period could be extended by order of the department whenever for any reason it did not give the department sufficient time for a thorough examination—the executive department having power might forbid the contract, which would then become subject to the provisions of the anti-trust law, if at all in restraint of trade.

If no such prohibition was issued, the contract would then only be liable to attack on the ground that it constituted an unreasonable restraint of trade. Whenever the period of filing had passed without any such prohibition, the contracts or combinations could be disapproved or forbidden only after notice and hearing with a reasonable provision for summary review on appeal by the courts. Labor organizations, farmers' organizations, and other organizations not organized for purposes of profit, should be allowed to register

DECLINES TO RECEIVE HILL

German Government Objects to Him as Ambassador

Emperor Has Personal Objection to Dr. Hill—Some Incident That Happened During Prince Henry's Visit Given as Reason for Dislike.

Washington, March 25.—The German government has declined to receive Dr. David Jayne Hill in the capacity of American ambassador to succeed Charamagne Tower whose resignation has been accepted to take effect upon the qualification of his successor. Dr. Hill is at present American minister to The Hague and was formerly first assistant secretary of state under the administration of Secretary Hay. The objection to Dr. Hill is one purely personal to Emperor William who has simply caused it to be made known that the American diplomatist is persona non grata to him. The reason for the emperor's objection is connected with the visit to America several years ago of his brother, Prince Henry, ranking admiral of the German navy. Dr. Hill at that time was first assistant secretary of state and necessarily was brought into official contact with the distinguished foreign visitor. Just what he did or did not do to give offense is not known here.

A perplexing feature of the case is presented by the fact that last November the German government let it be known that Dr. Hill would be cordially received as American ambassador to Berlin. Dr. Hill was selected to fill this important vacancy for two reasons—first because of his high rank in the world of literature and diplomacy and second because his promotion would be in execution of civil service principles in the diplomatic service. For two years preceding Dr. Hill had been an American minister, first accredited to Switzerland and then to The Hague.

Today's decision of the German emperor has come as a complete surprise to official Washington. It is nevertheless final as far as Dr. Hill is concerned.

Paris, March 25.—David Jayne Hill who arrived this evening from The Hague on a business mission and went to the hotel Regina expressed the greatest surprise when informed by the Associated Press that the German government has declined to receive him in the capacity of American ambassador to succeed Charamagne Tower. He said that this was the first intimation he had had of the German government's action and he was at a loss to understand the announcement, especially because he personally saw an official communication from Germany to the government at Washington expressing Germany's satisfaction over the ratification of his selection for that post by President Roosevelt. Moreover, he said, on a recent visit to Berlin he did not hear anything that would lead him to believe that he was persona non grata, to the German government.

The announcement of Germany's attitude toward Mr. Hill caused much surprise in French diplomatic circles in which he is well known, especially from his writings on international law and his service in The Hague peace conference.

DELEGATES INSTRUCTED.

North Dakota Democratic Convention Endorsed Bryan.

Grand Forks, N. D., March 25.—After three hours of oratory this afternoon the North Dakota democratic convention unanimously adopted resolutions endorsing William J. Bryan for presidential nomination and instructing North Dakota delegates to the national democratic convention at Denver to vote for Bryan's nomination.

The supporters of Governor John Johnson of Minnesota threatened to introduce a second choice resolution but the resolution was not forthcoming. The part of the resolutions relating to Mr. Bryan says: "The democrats of North Dakota, in convention assembled, believing that William Jennings Bryan represents the truest type of American citizenship and is the natural leader of the reform forces of the United States of America, resolves that the delegates from this convention to the national convention are hereby instructed to vote as a unit for the nomination of W. J. Bryan for president of the United States of America."

FUNERAL OF SENATOR BRYAN

People From All Over to State Attend Services.

Jacksonville, Fla., March 25.—The funeral of the late Senator William James Bryan took place today from St. Johns Episcopal church, Rev. V. W. Shields officiating. Long before the cortege reached the church the streets were thronged for blocks and as the funeral passed, all heads were uncovered in respect to the youngest United States senator.

At 2 o'clock every store in the city closed its doors. Prominent Floridians from all over the state gathered to pay tribute to Senator Bryan's memory.

THE SEABOARD AIR LINE

Important Action Taken at Meeting of Trustees

Resolution to Dissolve Existing Voting Trust Adopted—Action Taken in Accordance With Plan Made When Receivership Was Agreed Upon.

New York, March 25.—At a meeting of the voting trustees of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, today, resolutions were adopted looking to the dissolution of the existing voting trust on May 15, 1908.

In accordance with the resolution notice will be sent to all holders of voting trust certificates, advising them that upon surrender of their certificates they will be given in exchange actual stock of the railway company. Certificates for the common stock of the company are to be exchanged at the office of the Baltimore Trust and Guarantee Company at Baltimore and the certificates of the preferred stock will be exchanged at the office of the Continental Trust Company, Baltimore.

Practically the entire capital stock of the railway, including \$25,000,000 of preferred stock and about \$37,000,000 of common stock, has been held since the organization of the Seaboard system about eight years ago, by eight voting trustees. These trustees are:

John Skeleton Williams, of Richmond; S. Davies Warfield, of Baltimore; Thomas F. Ryan, James A. Blair, John B. Dennis, T. J. Coolidge, Jr., B. Y. Yoakum and H. C. Pierce.

The action taken today was in accordance with an agreement made in Washington on December 31, 1907, when the receivership for the property was decided upon between counsel for the Seaboard Air Line Railway and the New York interests in the property and John Skeleton Williams, representing the minority.

LANE TOO OPTIMISTIC

Hill Prefers to Let Facts Speak for Themselves as to the Condition of Railroads.

Washington, March 25.—James J. Hill, who was in Washington today, but would not discuss the Minnesota railway decision. The courts have said all that there is to say on the subject," he said.

Referring to the statement issued yesterday by Franklin K. Lane, of the inter-state commerce commission to the effect that the railways are prosperous despite reports to the contrary, Mr. Hill said, "Keep that article before you and then follow the accounts of railway affairs for the next three months daily, and see how the facts and the optimistic views compare with each other." "We railway people are in no position to do too much talking now. We prefer to let the facts speak for themselves—and they will speak loud enough." "The Pennsylvania railroad would not lay any of its men off if it could possibly afford to keep them," continued Mr. Hill, "but it can't afford it. It is not earning enough to do so. It is the same situation everywhere. It is too heavy a draught on optimism to see this condition of affairs in a bright light. The facts will make their own reply. It may take a little time, but the answer will come sure."

WILL VOTE FOR BRYAN

Indiana Delegates to National Democratic Convention.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 25.—Delegates to the democratic state convention this afternoon, in district meetings, selected twenty-six delegates to the national convention at Denver and the committee on rules selected four delegates at large. A majority of the delegates will vote at Denver for the re-election of Thos. Taggart as the Indiana member of the national committee.

While some of the district delegates were not instructed it is the present announced intention of all thirty delegates to support the candidacy of W. J. Bryan for presidential nominee. The state convention held a brief session at noon and one tonight. The resolutions committee will report tomorrow. After the adoption of the platform tomorrow a state ticket will be nominated.

The committee on rules ratified the national delegates selected by the district meetings including the Taggart delegates selected by the seventh district.

RIOT IN NORFOLK

Three Hundred Marines Resent Arrest of One of Their Number.

Norfolk, Va., March 25.—Three hundred marines rioted tonight at Water and Union streets, assaulting and severely beating Patrolman Matter, who had arrested E. W. Portesse, a ship-mate, on the charge of being drunk and down. Citizens went to the assistance of the officer and a general row followed. A riot call brought reinforcements from the central police station and the use of the night clubs restored order. Portesse and W. G. Longacre, W. F. Grubbs and S. L. R. Prybylas were arrested as ring leaders. Scores of broken heads had to be treated at the police station, but no one was seriously hurt.

SUPREME COURT OPINIONS

Report of Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows—Prohibition Central Campaign Committee.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., March 25.—The supreme court today filed the following opinions: Hocutt vs. Telegraph Company, from Beaufort, new trial; Bryant vs. Insurance Company from Edgecombe new trial; Vick vs. Flourney from Edgecombe, error; Rackley vs. Roberts, from Duplin, new trial; State vs. Freeman, from Columbus, no error; McKaskill vs. Walker, from Robeson, no error; Brown vs. A. C. L. railroad, from Cumberland, affirmed; Wade vs. Telephone Company, from Cumberland, no error.

Grand Secretary Woodell, of the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows, made his annual report today. It shows 227 lodges, a gain of 22, membership 15,418, a gain of 1,719. The total receipts of subordinate lodges, \$124,460; expended for relief \$26,69, and for other purposes, \$55,457. Investments aggregate \$142,692 and assets \$215,441, a gain of \$41,243.

Chairman Oates announces the following central campaign committee: Rev. Dr. J. L. Murphy, Hickory; T. J. Jarvis, Greenville; A. M. Scales, Greensboro; J. H. Southgate, Durham; H. C. Dockery, Rockingham; E. F. Adylett, Elizabeth City; J. A. Brown, Chadbourn; H. A. London, Flatboro; C. W. Mitchell, Aulander; J. Elwood Cox, High Point; A. D. Ward, Newbern; J. H. Tucker, Asheville; Rev. Livingstone Johnstone, of Raleigh; Rev. A. P. Tyer, Washington; J. O. Atkinson, Elon College; E. T. Phillips, Ayden; W. S. O'B. Robinson, Goldsboro; Rev. T. M. Johnson, Asheboro; Dr. F. R. Swindell, Rocky Mount; Dr. F. R. Harris, Henderson; N. B. Broughton, Raleigh; Henry A. Page, Aberdeen.

Ex-Governor Aycock informs Mr. Oates of the state anti-saloon league, that he will give the entire week beginning April 19th, and that beginning May 17th, to speaking tours of the state. He is also speaking at other points from day to day. Ex-Governor Jarvis is put at the head of the temperance forces in Pitt county.

ILLINOIS DEMOCRATS

Committee Fixes Date For Holding State Convention and Endorses Bryan.

Chicago, March 25.—In a harmonious meeting of the democratic state central committee held here today William Jennings Bryan was endorsed for the presidency in enthusiastic language. It was decided that the state convention should be held in Springfield, Ill., on April 23. The friends of Roger Sullivan, Illinois, member of the democratic national committee was in complete control of the meeting.

The only point upon which there appeared to be a division of sentiment was over the manner of selecting delegates to the state convention. In this the Sullivan men won their point, defeating the followers of M. F. Dunlap, of Jacksonville, Ill., who wanted to put through a rule requiring county conventions to be held.

The resolution endorsing Bryan was adopted by a vote of 33 to 1, John H. Donohue, of East St. Louis, being the only dissenter. Sullivan voted in the affirmative.

ROBBED OF \$5,000

Banker Held Up By Three Highwaymen.

Lincoln, Ill., March 25.—Frank Frorer, president of a Lincoln, Ill., bank and one of the Lincoln Mining company, was held up by three highwaymen this afternoon two blocks from the public square of Lincoln and robbed of \$5,000, the monthly payroll of the mining company. Two of the robbers were caught, but the third escaped with the money.

Frorer was on the way to the mine in a light wagon, carrying two satchels containing the money for the miners. He met three men in a buggy and two of them jumped into Frorer's quickly, bore the banker to the ground and grabbed the two satchels. The robbers then threw Frorer into his buggy, jumped into their rig and started out of the city at a fast clip.

Frorer, who was not seriously injured, returned to his office and informed the police who started in pursuit of the robbers. Two miles out of town the robbers left the buggy and took to a corn field where they were discovered.

Five shots were fired by the officers and two of the thieves surrendered, and neither was injured, but the third man got away with the money.

RAID KENTUCKY TOWN.

Night Riders Burn Three Tobacco Warehouses.

Owenton, Ky., March 25.—Owenton was visited early today by "Night Riders" who set fire to three large tobacco warehouses, causing a loss of about \$20,000 and destroying 150,000 pounds of tobacco, in addition three buildings. The first building set on fire was the big new "Equity" warehouse owned by a stock company. This had in it about 100,000 pounds of pooled tobacco and 50,000 pounds of independent leaf.

From the Equity warehouse the flames spread to the American Tobacco Company and a smaller independent house. Neither of these had any tobacco in them, however, and the principal loss is on the Equity house.

DAY IN CONGRESS

Senate Votes on Amendments to Currency Bill

PROCEEDINGS IN HOUSE

Stanley, of Kentucky, Denounces the President

Declares He is Like Alexander Hamilton in His Contempt for the Constitution—Relished Clamor and was Intoxicated by Applause. Discussion of Agricultural Appropriation Bill Resumed.

Washington, March 25.—Voting amendments to the currency bill consumed nearly the entire session of the senate today. All of the committee's amendments were accepted, and incorporated in the bill, and all other amendments, except one, were disagreed to, the voting showing conclusively that only with the sanction of the committee could any change be made in the bill.

At 5:15 o'clock the senate adjourned.

THE HOUSE.

In the course of a bitter denunciation of President Roosevelt on the floor of the house of representatives today, Mr. Stanley, of Kentucky, compared him with Alexander Hamilton, whom he designated as "an obscure adventurer" and both of whom he said had profound contempt for the constitution and displayed everlasting impatience with its restraints.

The president was a man who relished clamor and who became intoxicated by applause. On the other hand, he said, Mr. Bryan had the respect of the country as a statesman and was trusted as a man.

Apparently ignoring Mr. Stanley's remarks, Mr. Cocks, of New York, representing the president's district, defended the president against the recent attack of Mr. Willett, who, while representing another district, is a constituent of his colleagues. Mr. Willett, replying, declared his complete ability to defend all that he had said.

After voting to devote four hours to general debate, the house today proceeded with the discussion of the agricultural appropriation bill.

The work of the department of agriculture was highly praised by Mr. Polard, of Nebraska.

Further commendation of the work of the agricultural department came from Mr. Smith, of Missouri, who strongly advocated the encouragement of agricultural education through experiment stations.

Mr. Humphreys, of Mississippi, criticized the bill for its failure to make proper provision for the bureau of soils. There were only three sources, he said from which the national wealth was drawn. Those are the soil, the forest and the mines. It was a shame, he charged, "and a sin against our children to hear men in this new world talk of worn out soil."

The country was burning the candle at both ends and he said that congress should legislate to better the condition of those who dig the nation's greatness from the soil.

A plea for homesteads for the farmers of three hundred and twenty acres instead of 160 acres was made by Mr. French of Idaho.

The remainder of the session was devoted to brief speeches by Messrs. Griggs, of Georgia, who gave notice of an amendment increasing by \$100,000 the appropriation for the investigation of soils; by Mr. Bell, of Georgia, who favored governmental aid to public roads; by Mr. Ellerbe of South Carolina, who also favored increased appropriation for soil investigation. When the general debate had been exhausted the bill was laid aside until tomorrow when it will be read for amendments.

CUT TO PIECES BY TRAIN

Two Farmers Meet Horrible Death Near Wilson.

(Special to The Messenger.) Raleigh, N. C., March 25.—Today when the train on the Norfolk and Southern railway was coming by a point a mile this side of Neverson station, near Wilson, the bodies of two white men, Sam Roberts and Turner Bailey, were found. They were about thirty years old and both were reputable farmers, one of some means, and both of Old Fields township, Wilson county. They left home last Saturday, went to Wilson and bought a pistol and the last seen of them alive there was that afternoon. They turned up late yesterday at Neverson and were seen by the crew of an east bound train sitting on a side track and drinking, with bottles beside them. A freight train coming towards Raleigh passed that point about 8 o'clock, and they must have tried to board this, were run over and cut to pieces.